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THE BABE
THAT SLEEPS IN JESUS

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The Babe that Sleeps in Jesus,

—AND—

The Babe's Plea, to her Doubting Parents,

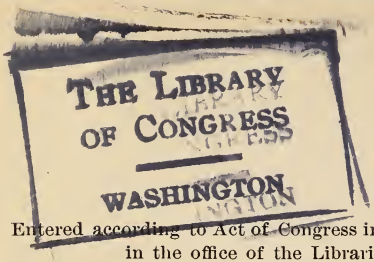
17
179°

By miss Philomela Hunt.

for the Resurrection of the Body.

No 15346 10

Dedham, Mass
for the authoress
1879



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1879.

The Babe that Sleeps in Jesus.

I

The Spring arrived; the elements
Combined to foster life,
And many a seedling started thence,
With promise rich and rife.

2

A little bud, supremely choice
Of every earthly gem,
Of lovely form and lyric voice,
Adorned the parent stem.

3

And as the cultured flowers of earth
'Neath summer's sun expand,
So did this bud of heavenly birth
Grow up in beauty bland.

4

When ripened fruits were gathered up
By searching gleaners' care,
The little bud began to droop:
Disease was lurking there.

5

When autumn skies began to lower,
And autumn winds to rise,
The fragrance of the little flower
Was borne to Paradise.

6

And as the reaper lays to earth,
With watchful eye, the grain,
For other sheaves of equal worth
In waiting to remain,

7

Then, with the precious bundle, hies
To the safe garner's rest—
E'en so our gentle Fannie lies;
Her sweet repose how blest!

8

As the ascending spirit's track
Approached the Father's face,
A peaceful halo hastened back,
The earthy form to grace.

9

We will not think of thee, in night
Beneath a wintry sod,
But where the blessed ones, in light
Surround the throne of God.

10

Though *here* we may not see thee grow
In artless, winning ways;
Thy broken, baby words, we know,
Are *there* "perfected praise." (a)

11

For "babes and sucklings" e'en proclaim, (b)
Ere lisping hath begun,
The honors of the offered Lamb,
The full Trisagion.

12

As "Holy, holy, holy, Lord," (c)
Thy infant lips shall try,
Let "Glory, glory, glory, Lord,"
Our grateful hearts reply.

13

Our *grateful* hearts;—O blessed One,
To *Thee* our hopes we owe;
In clouds had set our earthly sun
Without Thy dying throe!

14

The precious charge Thou didst assign,
Our keeping, not our claim,
Thou hast recalled, we would resign,
And bless Thy holy Name!

15

And as, in trust of future bliss,
We travel on below,
Proclaim we what Thy service is,
The peace Thy followers know!

16

O, may our daily lives display
Thy pure religion's power,
And for Thy kingdom let us pray
And labor every hour!

17

Though joys below, and hopes above,
Approach to ecstasy—
In view of Thine eternal love,
Whom have we, Lord, but Thee? (d)

18

With all the mind, with all the heart,
We would that love display,
And prove how choice that better part,
Which naught can take away!

19

O Paraclete, be ever nigh
To bless the vacant place,
And teach us how to glorify
And own sustaining grace!

The Babe's Plea, to her Doubting Parents,

for the Resurrection of the Body.

He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied. Is. 53 : 11.

I

My little clothes were nicely made,
My little clothes were choicely laid,
And oft the eye and hand of love
Would peek and gaze, and turn and move.

2

As fabrics of a salesman's store,
Or tasteful trimmings of his door,
They might attract a passer-by,
But never fill with tears the eye.

3

If torn, or soiled, or stolen—hence
All lamentation! the expense
And loss might waken some regret,
But never tears on eyelids set.

4

But purchased, planned and made, for *me*,
They waken thrills of ecstasy :
And as each day the stitches flew,
And more of form and beauty grew,

5

Anticipation and desire,
By musing, stronger grew and higher,
That, birth-pains over, with delight,
The dress and wearer may unite.

6

Because my little form has flown,
Will little clothes away be thrown?
O no! how precious will they be,
Because the things *belonged to me.*

7

They may bedeck another form,
But safely guarded still from harm;
Though to *successive* wearers linked,
The little garments are distinct.

8

As day by day my clothes were made,
And love awoke, and skill displayed—
God wrought my fragile *robe of clay*,
Then choicely locked the robe away.

9

His wisdom planned, when none could view
How wondrously the garment grew: (e)
Though worthless, as unconscious clod—
'Tis precious when 'tis *bought for God.* (f)

10

More love and pain than mothers know,(g)
Devise, attend, the Saviour's woe;
More lasting good succeeds the strife,—
It ushers to eternal life. (h)

11

Will He who wrought my robe of clay,
And bore so much on Calvary, (i)
The little robe of flesh *forget*
When on the throne of judgment set?

12

What saith The Word? (j)
"We haste to tell,
"Lest sorrow in your bosom swell,
"If in blind ignorance ye grope,
"And mourn as those bereft of hope.

13

"If we believe that Jesus died,
"And rose to prove us justified; (k)
"All who the Saviour's bosom share, (l)
"Will God bring with Him, in His care,

14

"Who sleep in Jesus."
That's the sleep
The angels love the best to keep;
And when the glorious morn shall break,
Each love-watched sleeper shall awake.

15

It is the Lord's own word we bring,
So full of sweet imagining,—
"If faith in Christ your spirits trim, (m)
"The little form belongs to Him." (n)

16

If members, resting in the ground;
When the archangel's voice shall sound,
Rise not, with risen Head to be,
The grave might claim a victory. (o)

17

If on a reptile's foot you tread,
He torpid lies, but is not dead,
He cunning stays, as stunned of man,
But catch the fugitive who can?

18

The livid hue *awhile* may steal,
Of woman's seed it bruised the heel ; (p)
Our Head has bruised the Serpent's *head*,
His army shouted, "Death is dead!" (q)

19

And when the myriad throngs arise,
And parted form to spirit hies,
Ascribing all to Him who died (r)
The Saviour shall be satisfied.

20

Behold, we show a mystery,
And reason asks, "How can it be?"
Faith says, "When sown, 'tis nature's vest;(s)
"It springs in growing glory dressed."

21

O Book of books! O Lord of lords,
Seal on our hearts Thy quick'ning words!
'Tis the perfection of our faith
To hear the words *in truth* He saith.

When bent o'er couch of trusting love,
Will lips dissimulation move?
Then when you feel the Saviour near,
Believe *His* message is sincere.

Thus Saith the Lord.

(*a*) Yea: Have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise? Math. 21: 16.

(*b*) Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength. Ps. 8: 2.

And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. Rev. 14: 3.

(*c*) And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory. Is. 6: 3.

And they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. Rev. 4: 8.

(*d*) Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee. Ps. 73: 25.

(*e*) Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them. Ps. 139: 16.

(*f*) What! know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. 1 Cor. 6: 19, 20.

(*g*) Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Is. 49: 15.

(*h*) And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his son. 1 John, 5: 11.

And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. Lu. 22: 44.

(*i*) We thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead. 2 Cor. 5: 14.

(*j*) But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first; Then we which are alive and remain, shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore, comfort one another with these words. 1 Th. 4: 13–18.

(*k*) Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification. Ro. 4: 25.

(*l*) He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom. Is. 40: 11.

(*m*) [The word "trim" is here used not only in the sense "to adorn," but also in that of removing an incrustation, preparatory to reillumination.]

(*n*) For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy. 1 Cor. 7 : 14.

For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one spirit are we all baptized into one body. Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. 1 Cor. 12 : 12, 13, 27.

(*o*) O grave, Where is thy victory? 1 Cor. 15 : 55.

For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope; Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. Ro. 8 : 20, 21.

(*p*) And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. Gen. 3 : 15.

(*q*) The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 1 Cor. 15 : 26.

(*r*) For thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood, out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation. Rev. 5 : 9.

(*s*) It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. 1 Cor. 15 : 44.

Are changed into the same image from glory to glory. 2 Cor. 3 : 18.

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